N-11-22

To the Kings Most Excellent Majestie:

THE HUMBLE

PETITION

Of divers

RECVSANTS,

And others in the County of *Lancaster*;

That they may be received into His Majesties Protection, and have their Arms redelivered to them, for the defence of His Majesties Person and their Families.

Together with His Majesties Commission to Sir *William Gerrard* Baronet, Sir *Cecill Trafford* Knight, and other His Majesties Subjects, Recusants, in the same County, charging and commanding them to provide with all possible speed, sufficient Arms for the defence of His Majesties Person or them, against all Force raised by any colour of any Order or Ordinance whatsoever, without His Majesties consent.

Ordered by the Commons in Parliament, that this Petition and Answer be forthwith printed and published:

H: Elsynge, Cler: Parl: D: Com.

London, Printed for *E. Husbands* and *J. Franck*: Nov. 15. 1642.

PETITION

To the Kings moſt EXCELLENT MAJESTY:

The humble Petition of Us the Inhabitants of *Lancaſhire*, whoſe Names are hereunder written, in the behalf of our Selves and divers others, being Recuſants:

Humbly ſheweth;

THat whereas we and the reſt of the ſaid County Your Majeſties moſt loyall Subjects, are diſarmed, and not ſufficiently provided for the defence of your Royall Perſon and our own families; Our moſt humble Supplication to Your Majeſtie is, That we may be received into your moſt gratious protection from violence, have our Arms taken from us, redelivered in this time of actuall War, and by Your Majeſties ſpeciall directions be inabled further to furniſh our ſelves with competency of weapons for the ſe-

curity of your Royall Person (if we be thereunto required) our Countries and Families, who now are not onely in danger of the common disturbance, but also menaced by unruly people to be robbed; And when by the Almightyes assistance Your Majesties Kingdom shall be settled, in case we be again disarmed, that a full value in Money in liew thereof to us may be restored;

And we shall daily pray, &c.

W.G. C.Tr. C.T. Chr.An. Io.C.

TO

To Our Truſty and Welbeloved,
Sir William Gerard Baronet, Sir Cecill Trafford Knight, Thomas Clifton, Charles Townley, Chriſtopher Anderton and Iohn Clansfield, and other of Our Subjects, Recuſants, Eſquires, in the County of Lancaſter:

CHARLS R.

Truſty and Welbeloved:

WEe greet you well, whereas by reaſon of the Laws and Statutes of our Realm, by which all Recuſants convicted, are to be without Arms, your Arms have been taken from you, So that now in this time of iminent danger, wherein there are Armies raiſed againſt our Commands, and contrary to our Proclamations, and are marching againſt us, and divers of our good Subjects, for obeying our lawfull commands, and oppoſing the rebellious proceedings of others ill-affected, are by ſtrong hand ſeized upon and impriſoned, their houſes plundered, and their goods taken away; and the like is threatned to our ſelves, who as all o-

thers

thers our Subjects ought to have our protection a-gainſt all unlawfull violence and force; And the Laws made for diſarming Recuſants were made onely for a proviſion to prevent danger in time of peace, and were not intended to bar you from a ne-ceſſary uſe of Arms in time of Actuall Warre, for your owne ſafety, or for the defence of Our Perſon againſt all Rebels and Enemies, which by your duty and allegiance you are bound unto; which is not, nor ever was meant to be diſcharged or taken away by any Act; And whereas the Arms which were taken from you, ought by Law to have been kept and preſerved to have been made uſe of by you in ſuch time of open War, or of ſuch others as you ſhould provide; Yet under the ſpecious pretence of diſarming Recuſants, and perſons ill-affected, your Arms have been diſpo-ſed and diſperſed into the hands of ſeverall per-ſons ill-affected, and for the moſt part Fomenters and Exciters of theſe Commotions now raiſed in this Kingdom; Our Will and Command there-fore is, and We charge and require you upon your Allegiance, and as you tender the ſafety of Our Perſon, and the peace and welfare of Our King-dom, That you with all poſſible ſpeed provide ſuf-ficient Arms for your ſelves, your ſervants and your Tenants, which We authorize and require during the time of open War raiſed againſt Us, to keep and uſe for the defence of Us, and of your ſelves, and of your Country, againſt all Forces and

Arms

Arms raiſed, or to be raiſed againſt Us, or againſt Our conſent, or contrary to Our Proclamations, by colour of any Order, or Ordinance, or Authority whatſoever: And We ſhall (according as We are bound to all Our Subjects) uſe Our utmoſt powers for the protection of you and yours, againſt all injuries and violence. And whenſoever theſe Arms which you ſhall ſo provide (after it ſhall pleaſe God to put an end to theſe dangers and diſtractions) ſhall be taken away from your cuſtody, by reaſon of Our Laws now in force; We do hereby aſſure you We will allow you for the ſame, ſo much as you ſhall have diſpended in proviſion thereof.

Given under Our Signet at Our Court at Cheſter, *the* 27. *of September, in the Eighteenth yeer of Our Raign.*

FINIS.

Novemb. 14. 1642.

Ordered that this Petition and Anſwer be forthwith printed and publiſhed:

H: Elſynge, Cler: Parl: D. Com.